



The Trestleboard



Evergreen Lodge No. 259, F. & A. M.

5801 CHICAGO AVE., RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA. 92506 (NO MAIL)

(951) 275-0444

STATED MEETING: 1ST WEDNESDAY 7:30 P.M. ~~~ DINNER AT 6:30 .

VOLUME XVIV, ISSUE III

“A WELCOME AWAITS YOU”

MARCH, 2009

Why did you become a Mason?

While thinking about our Lodges, their current membership and the new members, I came to ask myself, where have all the new members gone? And for that matter, where are all the “old” members? I stripped it back to the questions, why did I become a Mason and why does anyone become a Mason? Everyone’s reason is a personal one, but I’m sure they fall into a few main categories. Some may have joined the Lodge because of a family tradition; my father or grandfather was a Mason, so I will join too, or wanting the feeling of belonging to a fraternity with a rich and important history. Others may have strictly wanted the social aspect of being a part of a group with activities or networking. Some may have wanted a way to give back to the community in the area of charity work or working with a youth group, or being involved with your own children’s youth group, DeMolay, Jobs Daughters or the Rainbow Girls.

I have spoken to a few entered appendances and new members in the past few months. I have asked them why they have not finished their degrees, are why they are not attending Lodge meetings or attending Lodge events. I have heard some very interesting reasons for their loss of interest and each Lodge needs to examine what are the unique circumstances for this occurrence and how can it be corrected.

As there are many reasons for becoming a Mason, each member and each Lodge needs to fulfill these needs if it wants to keep its membership and keep them active. We must each also ask ourselves, if we are contributing to our Lodge in ways to create those opportunities to meet your needs and the needs of the other members. We all need to take an active role in suggesting activities, themes for meetings, topics of discussion, being a mentor and provide an atmosphere where everyone is welcome and feels needed and appreciated.

I encourage each member, if you are a Past Master, current officer or member to look inside yourselves to determine what you can do to move your Lodge in the direction you envisioned when you became a member. Not all men can be all things at all times and no one expects you to have activities every day of the year. But, as a believer in a living Craft you must exercise the privilege to further the Light. Are you interested in the wealth of our Masonic History? You could prepare a short presentation to be given at a stated meeting dinner. If you want your Lodge to have a more visible approach in community activities check with your city on what activities we can participate in and suggest and work with your Master or a committee. Embrace the camaraderie and spirit of the Order and you and your family attend a Lodge or District event, such as a BBQ or a semi-pro baseball game. (Cont. on page 5)

EVENTS COMING UP

Mark your calendar

- March 4 Evergreen Lodge Stated Mtg & Dinner 6:30 pm**
- March 7 Spring Cleaning—Work party on the building - come help**
- March 11 First Degree (if elected)**
- March 28 Riverside Air Show - Child ID**
- April 28 OSI — special presentation by Grand Secretary**
- May 26 OSI— at Moreno Valley — DeMolay presents Flower Talk**



EVERGREEN LODGE NO. 259

MASTER

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Junior WardenDrew Gilkey

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**THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND
LODGE, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS IN
CALIFORNIA**

Grand Master: Larry Adamson
Grand Secretary Allan Casalou

822ND MASONIC DISTRICT

InspectorFrank Lee

Phone: 951- 653-8510
E-mail: allcingeye@aol.com

March

**Stated Meeting
6:30 dinner**

Call to reserve your meal

Does it matter
What we have ?
It's always good.

**Dinner Reservations
Committee**

Drew Gilkey
Chairman
951-764-0823

Doris Morton [951] 686-6100

Call to reserve your meal

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*Lodge Dues for 2009
were due in December .
You are now Delinquent
If not paid*



The Master's

Message

Brethren,

Happy St. Patrick's Day! I hope that those of you who will be celebrating this holiday have a wonderful and safe time.

Our Sweethearts' Night was held on Feb 25th. We had sixteen ladies in attendance. I would like to say thank you to Wor. Bob Everett and Wor. Chuck Scalf for organizing this terrific evening. Mrs. Lynnette Channon prepared a delicious dinner, which was served by the officers and members of our Job's Daughters Bethel #264. Wor. Bob Everett conducted the program and presented Masonic pins to the ladies that had not previously received one. The ladies were presented with a rose and a handmade card from the girls of the Bethel. After dinner, the 712 Elite Choir from Rancho Verde High School provided the entertainment. The high point of the evening was when the choir members escorted members of the audience out onto the floor to perform the Macarena! It was a wonderful evening.

Our stated meeting will be on Mar. 4th. Dinner is at 6:30 PM, with the stated meeting at 7:30PM. Brother Jeff LeMasters Tahir will continue his Masonic Education programs. He will be discussing one of the three main tenets of Free Masonry. These talks have been enjoyable and enlightening. Please make dinner reservations with our Junior Warden or Doris Morton.

We will be having a work party on Sat., Mar 7th. Starting time is 8:30 AM. Plan on joining us for fellowship and completing more tasks around the Lodge.

We will be conferring a first degree on Wed., Mar 11th, if our candidate is elected at the stated meeting. Mar 18th and the 25th will be practices.

We will be conducting a Child ID event at the Riverside Air Show, Sat. Mar 28th. The event starts at 9:Am. We will be at the Lodge at 6:30AM to pick up the equipment. The air show is over at 4:00PM. If you would like to help at the air show, please contact our Junior Warden, Brother Drew Gilkey.

I hope to see you at the Lodge!

822nd Masonic District Events

Officers association, as it has been traditionally called, has evolved into much , much more . This once-a-month gathering of officers as well as brethren who are not officers but simply interested in learning more and helping out, has become a popular spot for masons throughout our district . It moves around between the 4 lodges each month, meeting on the third Tuesday of the month for dinner at 6pm and discussion and fine – tuning of Masonic skills after that. Through the leadership of our Inspector, this OSI has become the talk of masons all over the state. By working together and pooling our talents we have become a much stronger district and provides many great benefits to the individual Lodges.

April 28 will be a special event , at Evergreen, with the Grand Secretary making a special visit to talk about the Generations : X, Y, Millenium .. Etc. And the benefits and effects on Masonry and society. This is a subject explaining the attitudes of the generations and their respective differences.

New Masons: Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Masons , and ladies all welcome - in fact - highly encouraged to come.

Hi 12 Programs

All are welcome to attend
Lunch at 11:30 AM on Fridays
\$8.00 Speaker/Program 12pm

Programs include:

March 6 - Calif Theatre of the
Performing Art
March 13 -Inland Empire 66ers
Baseball
March 20— Rick Emmons
Ca Assoc of high 12 Clubs
March 27- Chuck Scalf
Riverside RC Club
(radio control planes)

Brothers with March Birthdays

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Mark Guest 1 | Sridhar Kundula 2 | William Roland 8 |
| Clair Meske 9 | Fred Sikita 10 | Manny Blanco 12 |
| Charles Daniels 13 | Stephen Logan 15 | John Channon 16 |
| Eric Custode 17 | Bill Stines 20 | Slade Smiley 21 |
| Jim Dalton 22 | Stan Channon 25 | Drew Gilkey 25 |
| William Lladd 26 | John Burnard 27 | John Cochran 27 |
| Robert vonPertz 27 | Samuel Cardelucci 30 | |
| Rodney Hoopai 31 | | |



. Becoming a Freemason is about a man's internal, spiritual transformation. For most men, it occurs when you look into your soul and realize that you have succumbed to many failings that you know (in your heart) have led you on a path away from our Creator and His wishes for each of us.

The 3 degrees, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason are conscious steps which each man chooses to take (with the help of other men), to once again be placed onto the "right road".

So, as you can see, being privy to a few Masonic passwords, grips and ritual wording, ...in fact, even if you knew all the perceived Freemasons secrets, ...this, alone, will not put you onto the "right road" .

The "right road" only comes into view when you take control of your life and truly desire to work to purify your heart and mind through upright moral character and feel the spiritual need to reach out in universal brotherhood and understanding to other men. Only then will you be able to realize and feel the virtues that our Creator has laid down for us in the Holy Scriptures. By following this path, you will become a better man, a better husband and a better father to your family

**Check out the web
site**

Www.SoCalMasons.com

See District 822 info



Moments from Sweethearts' Night February 25



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Evergreen Masonic Center Organization Leader Contacts

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Evergreen Lodge #259 F&AM | Vic Ropac , | Master | 943-6622 |
| Ungava Chapter Order of Easter Star | Janett Anderson , | Worthy Matron | 351-4044 |
| Bethel #264 Jobs Daughters | Lynnette Channon, | Bethel Guardian | 780-9489 |
| Ladies of the Oriental Shrine (LOSNA) | Donna Daugherty , | High Priestess | 909-399-1912 |
| Mission Bell Ct– Order of Amaranth | Ramona Bryant, | Royal Matron | 780-1028 |
| Riverside Hi-12 Club | Chuck Scalf | President | 683-3536 |
| Building Manager | John Channon | | 780-9477 |

March 2009 Calendar Evergreen Masonic Center

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---------|-------------|------------|--------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 OES – | 3 emta | 4 Stated Mtg 6:30 dinner | 5 LOSNA | 6 HI-12 @ 11:30 — | 7 LOSNA Installation |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 1st degree | 12 | 13 HI-12 @ Amaranth | 14 10 am Jobs |
| 15 | 16 OES – | 17 | 18 Degree/practice | 19 | 20 HI-12 @11:30 - | 21 |
| 22 + | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 HI-12 @ 11:30 - | 28 Jobs |
| 29 | 30 OES – | 31 EMTA | 1 Stated Mtg | 2 | 3 HI-12 @ 11:30 | 4 |

Attend a youth group meeting and appreciate that those young men and woman look up to you for their inspiration to live a “Masonic Life”. These are just a couple of examples of what positive actions can be taken to fulfill your Masonic dream.

Some Lodges have already taken active steps to accomplish many of these goals. For these activities will not only keep existing members motivated and excited, they will attract others. Please keep your entered apprentices and fellow craft members informed of all Lodge activities they and their families can participate in. It may initially take more personal contact than for them to just receive a monthly Trestleboard. We quickly forget how it felt to be the new member and not knowing all of the little things like what activities families can attend or particular protocols. The members need to continue to embrace the senior members and welcome the new ones. Your vision for your Lodge is in your hands and how you shape it and mold it is all of our responsibilities.

So at the end of the day, when you ask the question, why did I become a Mason? I hope you are at peace with yourself knowing that you have been a part of fulfilling that dream, not only for yourself but also for your Brothers.

Franklin R. Lee
Inspector 822nd Masonic District
1/27/09

TODAY IS YESTERDAY’S TOMORROW

By Bro. Timothy A. Dakin

I knew prior to joining our fraternal ranks, that there was quite a rich history of Freemasonry in general. After only 1 year as a Master Mason, I realized that Evergreen Lodge #259 has a history just as rich and relevant.

While assisting during our latest Evergreen work party (Is “work party” an oxymoron?), I ventured into areas of the lodge that I never knew existed. Upstairs, behind the piles of unused props, archived records, and a few boxes of Styrofoam cups, is a 2 by 2 hole hacked into the wall leading to an enclosed attic void. Seeing myself as the new face of Masonic exploration, I donned all the pertinent safety equipment, checked then rechecked the safety ropes and with a last farewell and hi-five from Drew, I began my trek.

Emerging into a new world like Admiral Perry at the North Pole, my adrenaline was flowing and then was completely and utterly dashed when John reached in and turned the light on. There is a light bulb and switch in there, so I knew I wasn’t the first intrepid explorer of this foreign region. To my amazement, the area is quite large, encompassing approximately 25 feet in length and the entire width of the lodge. You can see one of the huge laminated beams that support the roof. It is unpainted and shows that it was formed into its current shape, not a gaggle of 2X4s and 2X6s with nail plates like how trusses are made now. A fine example of craftsmanship. A few old chairs and stainless kitchen equipment are among the air conditioning ducts. However, what caught my eye was a small mountain of boxed items and documents. I started rifling through and noticed a large amount of beautiful ceremonial trowels, setting mauls, and presentation boxes. All of these things were apparently gifts given to some guy named William Price. Admittedly, I had no idea who he was but he did get some nice swag. John and Drew must have assumed my confined space was low on oxygen when I kept handing out old pictures and mementos excitedly saying, “Look at this! Look at this!” like a child on Christmas morning. John explained that William Price was Master of Evergreen in 1959, exactly fifty years ago. Eventually, Worshipful Price became California’s Grand Master in 1973. When he passed away, his widow boxed all of these things and gave them to the lodge. These were the items that would not fit in the display case. His portrait hangs in our lobby next to John’s father and MW Bill Holsinger. I felt humbled. Obviously, a man of much greatness and I know nothing of him. I have a lot to learn.

Then I saw them....a pile of large green bound books with a layer of dust adorning them. Evergreen registers,

the Holy Grail, not just one past member, but EVERY past member. Well, most of them anyway. I could not find the one encompassing 1959 which was my original idea to compare today to 50 years, and 100 years ago. However, there is enough information to make some interesting insights into both years.

100 years ago, in 1909, the Ford Model T was just getting into production, and it would cost you 60 cents to fill its 10-gallon tank. Astronomers have just sighted what might be a planet beyond Neptune. President Taft announces that a naval base will be built in Pearl Harbor to protect the US from Japanese attack. Evergreen Lodge has 264 members, all paying the annual dues of \$6. To begin your degrees you must submit \$50 to W.M, Charles B. Bayley. In today's terms, this equates to \$147.88 for dues and \$1232.38 to begin your degrees. Thumbing through the 1909 register, our brethren held 39 meetings total that year. An average of 29 members and 11 visitors attend each meeting. The officer's installation was held on January 29th, and was attended by 77 members and 19 visitors. Eighteen of the 19 visitors were from beyond California. On March 20, a Traveling Trowel 3rd degree was held for Bro. Briggs with 58 members in attendance and a whopping 107 visiting Brethren. Bro. Briggs must not have been very impressed; he only signs the register two more times in that year.

50 years ago, in 1959 our rolls noted 742 Evergreen Brothers. That same year Alaska and Hawaii become our 49th and 50th states. President Eisenhower is proud of our very first astronauts, Alan Shepard and John Glen. Fidel Castro comes to power in Cuba after a particularly nasty revolution, and Bonanza is the first series to be broadcast completely in color. Your dues this year are going up from \$12 to \$18 but if you are just beginning your Masonic degrees...please submit \$75 to Wor. Price. On your way to the lodge you'll be paying about 30 cents per gallon of gas. Using the inflation calculator, dues become \$134.03 and degree fees are \$558.49 in 2009 dollars. Just for grins and giggles, I used the same calculator to see what that 30 cent per gallon gas price would be today...\$2.23. I think I won't complain as much next time I pull up to the gas pump.

While researching and compiling this story, many, many thoughts filtered through my brain about Evergreen's past, present, and future. First was, what were they doing then to have so many participating members? Annual dues seem fairly close to today's standards, but why such high initiation cost compared to today? Altogether, the data raises more questions than providing answers. But, what I truly gleaned after all is said and done was that we need to never stop learning from the past, and keep diligently preparing for the future...in our lives as well as in our lodge. Today we are a small part of Evergreen's history. Let's give our brothers something to write about in 2059.

To continue the story (by John Channon)

Wor. Bill Price lived next door to Stan Channon and family and in 1959 Stan Channon joined Evergreen. (More on that subject in a later article.. Hint: 50yrs ago) Shortly after that, 1962, Wor. Price became Inspector of the 616th Masonic District until 1966 when he was appointed Assistant Grand Lecturer and Stan Channon, having served as Master in 1965 was appointed Inspector of the district where he served until September 1978. Bill Price went on to serve in the Grand Lodge line becoming Grand Master in 1973. In 1984 Stan Channon was selected to serve in the Grand Line and became the last Grand Master of California and Hawaii in 1989. Bill Holsinger went on to be our 3rd Evergreen bred Grand Master in 2003.

Evergreen has been graced with talent well before these men. Our Evergreen history shows that Henry D. French, Sr. Was appointed Inspector in 1912 and served until 1926. O.K. Morton (father of district attorney Byron Morton) then served as Inspector until 1935. Willard Babcock then served 25 year, resigning in 1962. All of these talented men came from Evergreen Lodge.

To pick up the story after Stan Channon, Terry Rhind was appointed in 1978 and served until 1986 when Howard Born took over and served until 1989, then again in 2001 and 2002 until Bill Smith was appointed and served until his illness caused him to resign. Howard Born then completed the year.

That's just a little history of over 80 years of members of Evergreen serving as INSPECTOR. The number of the district has changed several times in all those years, but the dedication and hard work sure had not.